Academic Focus: Elementary

By 5th grade in all elementary schools, each student will:

- demonstrate strong, varied skills in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies and science
- develop the ability to solve open-ended problems by thinking critically and creatively
- master the tasks promoting student inquiry into topics and choose how to demonstrate what is learned
- show the ability to work individually and with groups to support conclusions
- understand how work skills and technology skills relate to school academics skills
- display self-regulation, motivation, work ethic, cultural awareness, and good attendance
- show personal growth in and appreciation for visual arts, music, and physical education
- explore the concept of career pathways, post high school possibilities, and the use of technology in the workplace
- show acceptable progress on annual statewide tests
- understand the opportunities available to select appropriate educational pathways
Model’s Vision
We embrace the philosophy that all students can learn, and given the proper environment and academic program, teachers and students can strive for academic excellence. We hope that all students and educators will reach their full potential in becoming lifelong learners and productive citizens in a democratic society.

As you tour our building, you will see cooperative learning activities. Our upper grade students work with younger children, and we emphasize respect and responsibility to those around us. Model has high expectations for students and staff.

Model’s Bulldog Beliefs
Respect, Responsibility, Safety, and Kindness

Learning at Model

Learning that is engaging. Students become problem-solvers when immersed in project-based learning. Teachers design complex challenges that engage students, require them to demonstrate mastery of knowledge, and foster written and oral communication skills.

Learning that empowers. Students become connected to, engaged with, and challenged by their school, teachers, and peers by making learning relevant and creating a collaborative learning culture.

Learning that matters. Learning outcomes also measure collaboration, written and oral communication, and students’ responsibility for their own learning. Performance assessments measure the knowledge and thinking of students to help them become proficient in producing quality work.

Learning that enables. Teachers and students create, communicate, access information, and experience self-directed learning through a technology-rich environment.
Learning that transforms. Teachers actively support students as they collaborate, gather information, gain new skills, and find solutions through an educational curriculum that goes beyond traditional classroom structures. New Tech students leave their schools prepared for education at the next level.

Academics and High Quality Work
As a New Tech school, students will learn through their participation in project-based learning (PBL). As teachers instruct and engage students through project-based learning, students will work collaboratively to become problem-solvers. As a 1:1 technology school, all students in kindergarten through fifth grade will have an iPad to support their learning. Teachers will design challenges with connections to the Goshen community and beyond that will engage students, developing critical reading and math skills.

Culture and Character Growth for Every Student
Our teachers will teach and promote a culture of trust, respect, and responsibility. The integration of technology will allow students to communicate with people near and far, and gain access to an unending wealth of information including social and cultural understanding beyond the classroom.
Q: Will the individual learning pathways be transferable from elementary to middle school to high school?
A: Each learning pathway is built on an inquiry-based learning model which will allow for student transitions from one level of education to the next, regardless the pathway they have taken. The five pathways at the elementary level will transfer to the two pathways at the middle school. Goshen High School pathways will likely follow the pathway selections at the middle school level, but those are intended to be transferable by nature of the learning methods used.

Q: Will families need to attend the school in their neighborhood or will they have the option to pick other elementary schools with other learning pathway curriculums?
A: Goshen Community Schools has historically allowed “transfer” options from neighborhood schools to other schools in the district. This option will remain in place.

Q: How do parents decide which learning pathways are best for their children?
A: Parents should research the dynamics of each pathway and determine which may best fit their child, or consider the learning outcomes desired for their children. Since all pathways are inquiry-based and transferable from one educational level to the next, no pathway will be of less value than another.

Q: Will GCS address transportation needs if families select an elementary school beyond their neighborhood school?
A: For now, no. Unfortunately, GCS will not be able to consider all the specific transportation needs for all families. With new pathways still in the beginning stages, it will take some time to assess the level of transportation needs based on family school selection. Once the district has a better sense of transportation needs, consideration will be given to how they can best address this issue.

Q: What does a “school within a school” mean for Goshen Middle School?
A: The New Tech and Middle Years Program of International Baccalaureate will be separate “schools within a school,” breaking down the overall size of GMS into two smaller learning communities. This will result in stronger relationships between teachers and students. Each school will have its own principal, assistant principal, school counselors, and teachers, although there will be some teachers who teach in both schools.

Q: Can students leave one school and learning pathway option to attend another while still in elementary school?
A: Yes. All pathways are inquiry based in terms of learning and utilize the same curriculum maps, allowing for students to successfully transfer from one school to another.